Numb. CCLXXII.

The SPECTATOR.

Ubi viſus eris noſtra medicabilis arte
[illegible] monitis fugias otia prima meis. Ovid. Rem. Am.

Friday, January 11. 1712.

[illegible]CTATOR,

[illegible]E Occaſion of this Letter is of ſo great Importance, and the Circumſtances of it ſuch, that I know you will but think it juſt to inſert it, in [illegible] of all other Matters that can preſent [illegible] your Conſideration. I need not, [illegible] ſaid this, tell you that I am in Love. [illegible]ſtances of my Paſſion I ſhall let you [illegible] as well as a diſordered Mind will ad- [illegible] curſed Pickthank Mrs. *Jane*! Alas [illegible]ing at one to you by her Name as fa- [illegible] if you were acquainted with her as [illegible] ſelf: But I will tell you all as faſt as [illegible] Interruptions of Love and Anger [illegible] Leave. There is a moſt agreeable [illegible]oman in the World whom I am paſſio- [illegible] love with, and from whom I have for [illegible] of Time received as great Marks of [illegible] were fit for her to give or me to deſire. [illegible] Progreſs of the Affair of all others [illegible]ential towards a Man's Happineſs, [illegible] Life and Spirit not only to my Beha- [illegible] Diſcourſe, but alſo a certain Grace to [illegible]tions in the Commerce of Life in all [illegible] never ſo remote from Love. You [illegible] predominant Paſſion ſpreads its ſelf [illegible] Man's Tranſactions, and exalts or de- [illegible]ording to the Nature of ſuch Paſſion. [illegible] I have not yet begun my Story, and [illegible]ing Sentences and Obſervations when [illegible]leading for his Life? To begin then: [illegible]dy has correſponded with me under [illegible] Love, ſhe my *Belinda* I her *Cleanthes*. [illegible] thus well got into the Account of my [illegible] not keep in the Thread of it ſo much [illegible] you the Character of Mrs. *Jane*, whom [illegible] hide under a borrowed Name; but let [illegible] that this Creature has been ſince I knew [illegible] handſome, (tho' I will not allow her e- [illegible] *been* for the Future) and during the [illegible] her Bloom and Beauty was ſo great a Tirant to her Lovers, ſo overvalued her ſelf and under-rated all her Pretenders, that they have deſerted her to a Man; and ſhe knows no Comfort but that common one to all in her Condition, the Pleaſure of interrupting the Amours of others. It is impoſſible but you muſt have ſeen ſeveral of theſe Volunteers in Malice, who paſs their whole Time in the moſt laborious way of Life, in getting Intelligence, running from Place to Place with new Whiſpers, without reaping any other Benefit but the Hopes of making others as unhappy as themſelves. Mrs. *Jane* happened to be at a Place where I, with many others well acquainted with my Paſſion for *Belinda*, paſſed a *Chriſtmas* Evening. There was among the reſt a young Lady ſo free in her Mirth, ſo amiable in a juſt Reſerve that accompanied it; I wrong her to call it a Reſerve, but there appeared in her a Mirth or Chearfulneſs which was not a Forbearance of more immoderate Joy, but the natural Appearance of all which could flow from a Mind poſſeſſed of an Habit of Innocence and Purity. I muſt have utterly forgot *Belinda* to have taken no Notice of one who was growing up to the ſame womanly Virtues which ſhine to Perfection in her, had I not diſtinguiſhed one who ſeemed to promiſe to the World the ſame Life and Conduct with my faithful and lovely *Belinda*. When the Company broke up, the fine young Thing permitted me to take Care of her Home; Mrs. *Jane* ſaw my particular Regard to her, and was informed of my attending her to her Father's Houſe. She came early to *Belinda* the next Morning, and aſked her if Mrs. *Such-a-one* had been with her? No. If Mr. *Such-a-one*'s Lady? No. Nor your Couſin *Such-a-one*? No. Lord, ſays Mrs. *Jane*, what is the Friendſhip of Women——Nay they may well laugh at it. And did no one tell you any thing of the Behaviour of your Lover Mr. *What-d'ye-call* laſt Night? But perhaps it is nothing to you that he is to be married to young Mrs. —— on *Tueſday* next? *Belinda*

‘linda was here ready to die with Rage and Jealouſy. Then Mrs. Jane goes on: I have a young Kinſman who is Clerk to a great Conveyancer, who ſhall ſhew you the rough Draught of the Marriage-Settlement. The World ſays her Father gives him Two thouſand Pound more than he could have with you. I went innocently to wait on *Belinda* as uſual, but was not admitted; I writ to her, and my Letter was ſent back unopened. Poor *Betty* her Maid, who is on my Side, has been here juſt now blubbering, and told me the whole Matter. She ſays ſhe did not think I could be ſo baſe; and that ſhe is now odious to her Miſtreſs for having ſo often ſpoke well of me, that ſhe dare not mention me more. All our Hopes are placed in having theſe Circumſtances fairly repreſented in the SPECTATOR, which, *Betty* ſays ſhe dare not but bring up aſſoon as it is brought in; and has promiſed when you have broke the Ice to own this was laid between us: And when I can come to an Hearing, the young Lady will ſupport what we ſay by her Teſtimony, that I never ſaw her but that once in my whole Life. Dear Sir, do not omit this true Relation, nor think it too particular; for there are Crowds of forlorn Coquets who intermingle themſelves with other Ladies, and contract Familiarities out of Malice, and with no other Deſign but to blaſt the Hopes of Lovers, the Expectation of Parents, and the Benevolence of Kindred. I doubt not but I ſhall be,

SIR,

Your moſt obliged

humble Servant,

CLEANTHES.

SIR,

Will's Coffee-houſe, *Jan.* 10.

‘THE other Day entering a Room adorned with the Fair Sex, I offered, after the uſual Manner, to each of them a Kiſs; but one, more ſcornful than the reſt, turned her Cheek. I did not think it proper to take any Notice of it till I had asked your Advice.

Your humble Servant,

E. S.

‘THE Correſpondent is deſired to ſay which ‘Cheek the Offender turned to him.

ADVERTISEMENT.

From the Pariſh Veſtry, *January* 9.

All Ladies who come to Church in the new-faſhioned Hoods, are deſired to be there before divine Service begins, leſt they divert the Attention of the Congregation.

RALPH.

The First and Second Volumes of the SPECTATO
in 8vo. *are now ready to be delivered*
bers, by J. Tonſon *at* Shakeſpear's *Head*
Catherine-ſtreet *in the* Strand.

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By Her Majeſty's Company of Comed
AT the Theatre Royal in Drury
this preſent Friday being the 11th of January,
viv'd, a Play call'd, The Tempeſt: or, the Inchanted Iſl
it was altered from Shakeſpear by Sir Wil. D'avenant, and
Mr. Dryden, Poets Laureat. With new Scenes, Machi
the Original Decorations proper to the Play. And to Mo
Saturday will be preſented a Play call'd, The Spaniſh Fry
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